AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

Entered as second-class matter September 30, 1912, at the Post Office at Washington, D. C., under the Act of August 24, 1912.
Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in Sec. 1103, Act of October 3, 1917, authorized July 11, 1918.

WHOLE NO. 1187 — WILLIAM GREEN, President — WASHINGTON, D. C., SATURDAY, JANUARY 13, 1934 — FRANK MORRISON, Secretary — VOL. 24, NO. 2

People never give up their liberties but under some delusion.—Edmond Burke.

Repeal of 15 Per Cent Federal Pay Reduction Is Asked by AFL

Representatives of 5,000,000 Union Members Organize Committee in Washington to Shape Legislation Covering Wages, Jobless Insurance, Workmen's Compensation State Fund, and Other Social Justice Legislation.

Washington.—The most important legislation affecting the economic and social interest of all Government employes is the repeal of the 15 per cent wage cut in the Economy Act and the safeguarding of wages set by wage boards, declared a resolution unanimously adopted by representatives of three million members of the American Federation of Labor at a militantly disposed meeting held in the Executive Council chamber of the A. F. of L. building here.

The meeting resulted in the establishment of the American Federation of Labor General Legislative Committee on Federal Legislation made up of representatives of the A. F. of L. and affiliated national and international unions and representatives of the four railroad brotherhoods to carry on a militant movement for all legislation concerning employes of the Federal Government.

The organization was also approved by representatives of the four railroad brotherhoods, bringing the workers represented up to 5,000,000.

Green Presides

William Green, president of the A. F. of L., who presided at the meeting, pointed out that the American Federation of Labor had a big legislative program planned covering many matters of great interest to the workers.

E. C. Babcock, president of the American Federation of Government Employes, declared that the primary legislative activities should be directed toward the repeal of the wage reduction section of the Economy Act.

Labor Officials Back Program

John P. Frey, secretary-treasurer of the Metal Trades Department of the American Federation of Labor; M. J. Garrett of the United Association of Plumbers and Steamitters of the United States and Canada; Leo E. George, president, and Gilbert E. Hyatt, legislative representative, of the National Federation of Post Office Clerks; Thomas Lane of the Bricklayers, Masons, and Plasterers' International Union of America, and W. J. Gallagher of the Brotherhood of Painters, Decorators and Paperhangers of America, and many others supported the plan to prepare a measure for the consideration of Congress.

NRA Amendment Urged

The conference also approved of seeking amendments to the National Recovery Act, a State fund for workmen's compensation insurance, and unemployment insurance. A bill for old-age pensions in the District of Columbia has already been presented to Congress by Senator Capper of Kansas and Representative Norton of New Jersey, it was reported.

There was a frank discussion of all matters pertaining to legislation, and especially of the refusal of employers to obey the National Recovery Act. Mr. Green said that there were many who were disappointed at the failure of employers, especially great corporations, to respect Section 7-A of the Act by refusing to deal with bona fide trade unions.

Legislative Committee Members

The A. F. of L. General Committee appointed to secure the restoration of Government workers' pay and forward all other Federal legislation vital to the interests of working men and women consists of the following persons:

W. C. Hushing, National legislative representative and general organizer, American Federation of Labor, chairman; Gilbert E. Hyatt, legislative representative, National Federation of Post Office Clerks, secretary; M. T. Finnan, secretary, National Association of Letter Carriers.

William C. O'Neill, secretary-treasurer, Building Trades Department, American Federation of Labor; Leo E. George, president, National Federation of Post Office Clerks; N. P. Alifas, representative, Metal Trades Department, American Federation of Labor; Frank J. Coleman, representing the International Plate Printers, Die Stampers and Engravers Union of North America.

Clyde M. Mills, International Typographical Union, representing the Printing Trades Unions; William Collins, president, Railway Mail Association; E. Claude Babcock, president, American Federation of Government Employes; C. L. Rosemund, president, International Federation of Technical Engineers, Architects and Draftsmen's Unions.

national legislative representative,HT

John P. Corbett, national legislative representative, Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers; W. B. Jackson, national legislative representative, Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen; W. D. Johnson, national legislative representative, Order of Railway Conductors; A. F. Stout, national legislative representative, Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employes.

Employers Opposition to Collective Bargaining Menaces Workers' Rights

AFL Metal Trades Department Secretary Declares Antiunion Employers Are Scuttling Right to Organize and Bargain Collectively Guaranteed by Labor Section of Recovery Act—Urges Mobilization of Workers in Strong Unions to Use Economic Power for Their Protection.

Washington.—The militant opposition to collective bargaining with bona fide trade unions manifested by many employers operating under NRA codes of fair competition is pregnant with danger to the toilers and calls for nationwide organization of all working men and women into effective unions to protect by mobilization of their economic strength the rights guaranteed to them by the National Industrial Recovery Act, but largely nullified by the persistent refusal of employers to obey the letter of the law.

This significant declaration was made by John P. Frey, secretary-treasurer of the Metal Trades Department of the American Federation of Labor, in a statement entitled "Breakers Ahead," which reviews the experience of the workers during the first six months of the NRA with various forms of antagonism to the rights of the masses which the congenital enemies of labor have developed even under the wings and despite the talons of the Blue Eagle.

Triple Fight Against Unions

According to Mr. Frey, anti-union employers have centered in two fields many of their activities against labor's rights as set forth in both the letter and the spirit of the Recovery Act. They have refused, he said, to recognize the right to organize and choose collective bargaining representatives, without employer interference, specifically guaranteed by the Recovery Act; and they have given firm support to the notorious company union.

On the specific question of the menace to the workers contained in the continued animus toward collective bargaining shown by a large number of employers, Mr. Frey said, in part:

Labor's Rights in Recovery Act

"Section 7-A of the National Industrial Recovery Act guarantees labor's right to organize and to carry on collective bargaining. It is essential that the law should contain this provision in view of the far-reaching effect of the Act in building up the membership of employers' organizations. Had the law not contained this provision it would have materially assisted industry to organize on the one hand, and left labor helpless, tied hand and foot to the industrial chariot wheels.

Collective Bargaining Opposed

"The motives of employers organized into industrial associations under the codes, are no different from what they were before. Many of them are vigorously opposed to both the principle and the practice of collective bargaining. They do not intend that it shall exist if they can prevent it. The same staff of legal counsel maintained by numerous national associations of employers, who worked to disrupt the trade union movement only a few years ago, are now using their skill as lawyers to assist employers in preventing the development of collective bargaining between employers and organized workmen.

Code Authorities Are Anti-labor

"The membership of the code authority under a large number of the codes, is composed of employers who, for years, have been openly and frankly opposed to collective bargaining. So far, with the exception of one or two codes, there is no provision for collective bargaining or of a form of organization under the code through which collective bargaining could be carried on.

National Labor Board Overwhelmed

"If collective bargaining had made headway, as it should have done under the codes, there would be much less work for the National Labor Board under Senator Wagner to occupy its energies. In fact, the National Labor Board can not possibly consider and pass upon the large number of serious disputes which have arisen in industry because of the absence of collective bargaining.

"Regional Boards, under the authority of the National Labor Board, have been set up in the principal industrial centers, and these are overwhelmed by the number of cases referred to them.

Labor Action Outside of Codes Visioned

"If, under the codes, a much more complete organization is established for employers, and the codes fail to set up the provisions through which collective bargaining can be carried on, then labor faces a condition where to receive consideration it must act outside of the provisions of the codes, or surrender and become voiceless.

"To be forced into such a position would be unfortunate for American Industry, as it would be for American workmen. It would be an evidence that the necessary balance between the rights and opportunities provided for employers and wage earners had not been established; that the fullest practical measure of industrial equality and industrial justice had not functioned under the codes.

Employers Boycott Unions

"Before the World War the United States was recognized as the principal industrial nation whose employers refused to recognize the right of their employes to trade union organization, and the industrial practice of collective bargaining. After the depression of 1921, the United States became more notoriously than ever a non-union country, a nation whose industries were well organized, and who used their organization, among other things, to prevent their employes from enjoying a similar right."

Mr. Frey declared that under the NRA "the necessity for organization becomes almost mandatory upon employers," while employes are menaced by company unions, with collective bargaining recognized in many instances only when it suits the employers. He deplored this condition as contrary to the full purpose of the National Industrial Recovery Act, and said that if this policy continues it will place the American wage earners under an unjust handicap.

Unions Are Labor's Salvation

"The breakers ahead are menacing. Labor must be made to recognize the danger," Mr. Frey concluded. "Wage earners must be made to see that their salvation does not depend alone upon guarantees in the law, invaluable as these guarantees are.

"Unless American wage earners make use of these guarantees; unless they organize; unless they insist upon the operation of the codes in a manner which gives them identical or equivalent benefits to those enjoyed by their employers, then their good ship may be driven against the rocks of inequitable industrial conditions, and untold effort and sacrifice will be required before it can be salvaged."

GREEN DENOUNCES LOW WAGE IN LAUNDRY CODE

Declares Laundry Owners' Proposed Minimum of 14 Cents Per Hour and $6.30 for a 45-Hour Week Is "Starvation" Pay—Urges 40 Cents Per Hour for 35-Hour Week—Assails Victimization of Women Workers.

Washington.—Officials of the National Recovery Administration are still "in session" on the fair practice code for the laundry industry, with its monstrous proposal of $6.30 for a 45-hour week, trenchantly described as a "starvation wage" by William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, in the hearing on the code.

It is said that this $6.30 is the lowest wage rate yet submitted by any group of employers, and in labor circles it is not believed that either the NRA or President Roosevelt will approve such a low living standard for the thousands of women workers who toil in American laundries.

In place of the starvation standard urged by the laundry owners, Mr. Green urged the NRA to fix a minimum of 40 cents per hour and $14 per week of 35 hours, without wage differentials for various geographical regions, and vigorously attacked the low wage rates for the South as an open determination by employers to victimize Negro workers because of their color.

No "New Deal" in 14 Cents Per Hour

Declaring that under the principles of the National Recovery Act high wages are necessary to build up purchasing power, and thus provide employment for the jobless, Mr. Green said that the 14 cents per hour minimum written into the proposed code by those who own and control the laundry industry was a denial of the major purpose of the Act. "Is this the new deal?" he asked. "Is it possible to supply the purchasing power which is essential for the success of the National Recovery program by such a wage? I believe it would be difficult if not impossible to convince the thousands of workers in the laundry trade that they were sharing in the new deal if such a wage were established.

Just a Starvation Wage

"Let us look for just a moment at what this wage would mean in weekly and in yearly purchasing power. At best, with even the over-long work week of 45 hours proposed in the code, a woman employed in flat work in a laundry in the South could earn only $6.30 for a full week's work. In a year of 52 weeks, if she were employed every possible day and hour of that year, she could earn $327.60. No amount of imagination, no amount of hope, can make that anything but what it is—a starvation wage, which will not buy even the barest necessities of life for a single person.

A large majority of the employes in this industry are supporting, either wholly or in part, other persons. To what kind of life are these people condemned by such a wage? Even the highest wage proposed in the code would yield the low yearly sum of $683.24—again a starvation wage. The average annual wages in the laundry have been considerably above this amount, as is shown by the figures below.

"At the same time, I want to compare average annual wages in the laundry industry with all manufacturing industry, to show how much lower laundry wages are than in all manufacturing industry:

Year	Laundry Trade	All Manufacturing Industry
1927......	$989.74	$1,299.29
1929......	981.44	1,315.00
1931......	931.62	1,102.00

Code Victimizes Women Workers

"I am convinced that if the workers in this industry were not very largely women, and in the South negro women, the wage rates in this code would never have been proposed. The necessity of these women is great. They must accept what is offered. They have in the past and are at present working for wages which bear no relation to a fair value of the service they render.

Labor's Wage Rates

As a complete substitute for the disgracefully low wages demanded by the laundry owners, Mr. Green recommended that "no plant employe shall be paid less than the rate of $14 per week of 35 hours, or 40 cents per hour whether compensated on a time rate, piece-work or other basis."

For engineers, firemen and maintenance employes he urged a minimum of $22.65 per week of 35 hours, or 65 cents per hour; for delivery men a minimum of $15 per week of 40 hours, plus a 10 per cent commission on sales; for executives and managers a minimum of $35 per week; and for office and clerical employes a minimum of $16 per week of 35 hours.

His recommendation also specified that the minimum wages shall be exempt from any payments for pensions, insurance and sick benefits other than those voluntarily paid and from all deductions for errors or for other causes.

Laundry Work Is Arduous

"Let me say again, in showing why a $14 per week minimum wage is a reasonable proposal, that a very considerable portion of the work in the laundry industry is hard physical labor, and makes great demands upon the strength and endurance of the workers.

"Then, too, working conditions are unfavorable. High temperature and high humidity are characteristic of both the washing and the ironing departments. There are certain hazards to which the workers are exposed, such as burns for the washmen, or the body press operator; the danger of catching hands and arms in revolving rolls, as in the flat work ironer and the feeder."

E. J. TRACY TAKES POSITION WITH NRA

Washington.—Edward J. Tracy, for a number of years acting director of the American Federation of Labor Legal Reference Bureau, accepted a position with the National Recovery Administration as the assistant to Edward F. McGrady, assistant administrator for labor. Mr. McGrady was formerly a member of the legislative committee of the A. F. of L.

A graduate of Georgetown University Law School and a member of the District of Columbia Bar, Mr. Tracy's knowledge of labor law and court decisions affecting the workers, combined with his thorough familiarity with the labor movement, make him a valuable asset to the NRA.

LABOR MAKES 3 BIG GAINS DURING 1933

A. F. of L. Business Survey Says 6,400,000 More Persons Have Jobs, Work Week Is 4½ Hours Shorter, Workers Are Better Organized—10,702,000 Still Without Permanent Employment.

Washington.—A larger amount of employment, shorter hours, and improved union organization were cited as labor's three outstanding gains during 1933 in the annual review of the workers' economic conditions published in the American Federation of Labor's current "Monthly Survey of Business."

"One million, eight hundred thousand who were out of work last year-end now have jobs in industry, and 4,600,000 have temporary work under the Civil Works Administration, the Public Works Administration, and the Civilian Conservation Camps," the survey said.

"Average weekly hours in industry generally are shorter by 4½ hours per week than at the end of 1932, and workers are better organized to handle their problems and share in industrial control than they were last year."

Wage Increases Nullified

In the field of wages, however, the optimism is necessarily lessened by the conflicting elements of improved conditions for some workers and worse conditions for others. "There have been definite gains under codes for the lowest wage groups," the survey pointed out, but workers of average or higher wages have been forced to a lower living standard. Hourly wage rates average higher by 5½ cents per hour, but in many cases this is not enough to compensate for shorter hours; and in no case is it enough to compensate for higher prices.

"Workers' income in our 16 chief producing and distributing industries averaged $20.53 a week in November, 1932, and $20.56 in November, 1933. Meanwhile, food prices are up 7 per cent and prices of clothing and furnishings are higher by 21 per cent, so that workers' real buying power is considerably lower. Millions who got jobs during the year are better off, but those who had jobs at more than a minimum wage have lost ground.

Mass Buying Power Increased

"Mass buying power has gained during the year, partly from reemployment in industry and partly from jobs created by the government through PWA and CWA. Income of all workers in industry is 11.7 per cent higher at this year-end than last, a gain of about $243,000,000 monthly. PWA payroll has added $60,000,000 and CWA about $240,000,000 so that workers' total buying power per month is above last year by $543,000,000, or 26.4 per cent. Workers' total income has risen so much more than prices that a considerable volume of buying power is liberated.

Business Stimulated

"The effect of this buying power has been to stimulate business, and the gain in business makes the outlook for employment and earnings in industry considerably brighter at this New Year's than last. Business activity is at least 10 per cent above last year as we enter 1934; farm prices are 25 per cent above last year and the general price level 12 per cent higher so that the heavy debt burdens which have been such an obstacle to recovery are lightened.

"Basic industries are beginning to pick up: Steel and machine tools are ending the year more than 100 per cent above last year's low level; automobile production in the last half year has been nearly double 1932; building in December has been nearly three times last year's level.

"Increased activity in these industries means double gains in employment, for these workers are not making food or clothing and their wages employ others in consumer industries to produce these essentials.

Farmers Receive Benefits

"Unsold crops, which were holding farm prices down while the unemployed went hungry, have been greatly reduced by the government, both by distribution to the unemployed and by the crop reduction program.

"The year-end finds the huge unmarketed supply of cotton reduced by over a million and a half bales or 22 per cent, unmarketed wheat less by one-third or over 130 million bushels, and other farm surpluses also reduced. These reductions have raised farm prices and the gains in farmer buying power have already put men to work in the industries making farmers' supplies.

10,702,000 Lack Permanent Work

"All these gains show progress, but we must not forget that in November, 10,702,000 workers still had no industrial employment, that CWA funds giving temporary work to 4,000,000 will be exhausted by February 15, that business is still 30 per cent below normal, that the outlook is overshadowed by a danger which might destroy all progress made—inflation by fiat money."

WAGNER WILL REMAIN HEAD OF LABOR BOARD

Washington.—The White House announced that at the request of President Roosevelt, Senator Robert F. Wagner of New York had agreed to remain indefinitely as chairman of the National Labor Board.

Senator Wagner recently declared that he desired to be relieved of the chairmanship because of his imperative duties in the Senate. Following a conference with the President, the New York Senator disclosed that sub-chairmen will be named to carry on the board's active work.

PAINTERS WIN UNION PAY ON FEDERAL BUILDINGS

Washington.—Union painters in the District of Columbia won a final decision in favor of the union rate of wages as the prevailing rate in Washington. Conferences on the controversy were held in the Treasury Department at which representatives of the contracting painters on Federal work here and officials of Local Union No. 368, Brotherhood of Painters, Decorators, and Paperhangers of America were present.

At the conclusion of the arguments Turner W. Battle, assistant to the Secretary of the Treasury, declared that the "information developed at these conferences tend to confirm the position previously taken by this Department that the prevailing rate of wages for painters in the District of Columbia has been during the life of this work and still is $1.37½ per hour."

The decision applies to all Federal buildings under construction in the District of Columbia.

RESTAURANT CODE WAGE RATES ARE HELD UNJUST

A. F. of L. Secretary Says $9.72 Per Week Proposed by Employers Is Really Slashed to $2.72 by Deductions for Meals, Lodgings and Tips.

Washington.—The National Recovery Administration is still considering the minimum wage rates and maximum work week which restaurant owners will be permitted to impose upon thousands of restaurant employes throughout the United States by means of a fair competition code for the industry set up in conformity with the National Industrial Recovery Act.

Division Administrator A. D. Whiteside, in charge of the code, said he was unable to set a definite date when the survey of the data presented at the hearing would be completed and recommendations made to General Hugh S. Johnson, Recovery Administrator.

The code as submitted by the National Restaurant Association, whose members evidently still cling to the outworn theory that profits are congenitally connected with long hours and low wages, actually had the audacity to propose a 54-hour week with $9.72 as the minimum weekly wage in the South and $12.42 in the North. Low as these wage rates are, the employers proposed to reduce them still further by deducting for meals and lodgings and tips.

In the hearing on the code held by the National Recovery Administration, Frank Morrison, secretary of the American Federation of Labor, who appeared at the request of the Hotel and Restaurant Employes and Beverage Dispensers' International Alliance, criticized the entire wage schedule as essentially unjust, claiming that in reality the proposed minimum wage was $2.72 instead of the $9.72 set forth in the text of the code.

Employers' Wage Rates Riddled

Declaring that the "restaurant employes, like those in other industries, have wives, children, and other dependents to support," and that a decent living for their families could not be provided by the wage rates set out in the employers' proposed code, Mr. Morrison proceeded to analyze its wage rates with a keenness that left no valid support for its monstrous provisions. He said:

"After territorial and population differentials are taken into account, the minimum rates per hour proposed by the employers range from 23 to 28 cents in the North, and from 18 to 25 cents in the South.

"The code permits, if the employe elects, deductions for meals and lodgings not to exceed 25 cents per meal and $2.50 per week for lodgings, or for a six-day work week, a deduction of $7.

"The 18-cent minimum rate of pay would, on the basis of a 54-hour week, provide an employe with a full-time weekly income of $9.72 per week. The charge for meals and lodgings at the humble rates quoted in the code would require an expenditure of $7 per week. This would leave the employe $2.72 per week in cash.

Gratuities Scheme Condemned

"On the other hand, if the employe were one who received gratuities, the employer would be responsible for a weekly wage of $4.86. The employe, for meals and lodging, would owe his employer $7, or $2.14 more than he would receive from the employer for his full week's work. Presumably, under the code, he would be forced to pay this sum to the employer from the gratuities he received.

"This comparison need not be elaborated upon. It constitutes in itself the most striking condemnation that can be made against the deficient minimum rates of pay proposed in the restaurant employers' code.

"This is the only conclusion to be drawn from the provision in the code that for those employes who customarily receive gratuities—waiters and waitresses—the employer becomes directly responsible for only 50 per cent of the minimum wage rates proposed; and the general public for the other 50 per cent."

$15 for 44-Hour Week

Concluding his argument against the minimum wage rates proposed in the restaurant owners code with the significant declaration that they "can mean nothing but starvation wages," Mr. Morrison endorsed unreservedly the $15 minimum weekly wage for the 44-hour week recommended by Edmund Flore, president of the Hotel and Restaurant Employes and Beverage Dispensers' International Alliance.

SUPREME COURT VERDICT UPHOLDS EMERGENCY LAW

Five-Four Decision Holds Minnesota Mortgage Foreclosure Moratorium Is Constitutional—NRA Principle Involved.

Washington.—By a five-four decision the Supreme Court of the United States upheld the constitutionality of a law enacted by the Minnesota legislature establishing a two-year moratorium on mortgage foreclosures.

The decision committed the court to the principle that emergencies call into being powers in the Federal Constitution giving the Government authority to suspend contracts and similar instruments in order to cope with economic hardships arising out of crises like the business depression.

Although the National Industrial Recovery Act passed by the special session of Congress was not under consideration, the principle contained in the Minnesota statute is reflected in the Federal law. Competent observers therefore conclude that if the Recovery Act comes before the Supreme Court it will be found justified by the general welfare clause of the Federal Constitution.

The decision revealed a line-up of liberals and conservatives which has been established in former decisions of the Supreme Court. Chief Justice Hughes wrote the majority opinion, which was supported by Justices Brandeis, Stone, Roberts, and Cardoza. The four regular conservatives, Justices Sutherland Van Devanter, McReynolds and Butler, expressed emphatic contrary views in an opinion by Sutherland.

Organized Labor Demands New Policy In Codes of Fair Practice, Lewis Says

United Mine Workers' President Holds That Unless NRA Accepts 30-Hour Week, Higher Wage Rates, and Workers' Representation on Code Authorities, Congress Will Be Asked to Amend Recovery Act and Make Such Policy Mandatory.

Philadelphia, Pa.—Strong criticism of the long work week and low wage rates in codes of fair competition established under the National Industrial Recovery Act and the employer dictatorship which enforces them, as well as disapproval of the National Recovery Administration's temporizing with employers who violate the labor section of the Act, characterized the address here on "Labor and the NRA" by John L. Lewis, president of the United Mine Workers of America, before the meeting of the Academy of Political and Social Science. Unless these conditions were remedied by a change of administration policy, organized labor would mobilize its strength in Congress to amend the law and make the proposed policy mandatory, he said.

Labor Supports Recovery Act

"Organized labor is a single unit in its approval of the objectives of the National Industrial Recovery Act," Mr. Lewis declared. "Labor may differ with the National Recovery Administration in its interpretations and policies, but as to the Act itself the support of organized labor, in a fundamental sense, is without reservation.

"From the standpoint of human welfare and economic freedom, we are convinced that there has been no legal instrument comparable with it since President Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation of 70 years ago. We also are convinced that the principles embodied in the Recovery Act represent America's chief hope, not only for economic recovery, but for a better economic and social life in the future."

Shorter Hours and Higher Pay Asked

But the head of the Mine Workers had no illusions about the elements necessary to bring about economic recovery. "Mass purchasing power," he declared, "must be increased in order to absorb the constantly growing output of mass production industries, and hours of work must be reduced, while earnings are maintained, in order that those who were technologically displaced before the existing depression, and who may have been dispipaced since 1929 by improved methods and further mechanization of industry, may be reemployed."

So far, he said, the work week prescribed in the codes is too long and the wages too low to accomplish these objectives. "The present policy, with the exception of minimum wage rates, is more or less temporizing, and exceedingly slow in its application."

New Policy Demanded

To meet this condition the National Recovery Administration, he said, "should announce a new definite policy for the guidance of industry to which all codes should be required in principle to conform. This policy should be broader than that now existing, and should include, not only minimum wage rates and maximum hours, but definite price and production objectives."

"The ultimate objectives as to policy and procedure of the National Recovery Administration should be immediately announced and stated to be the standards which must be included by industries in their codes. To my mind, these standards should be:

"1. Hours of work per week to be reduced, as far as practicable, to a general level of 30 hours a week, of five six-hour work days.

"2. Minimum wage rate of 50 cents per hour.

"3. General wage rates of 1926 raised sufficiently to produce the same weekly wage for shorter hours as earned per week before reduction in weekly schedule of hours.

"4. Production schedule as of 1926."

Work for All Jobless

Mr. Lewis expressed the belief that these standards would put most of the millions of unemployed to work, suggesting that if it were deemed inadvisable to make the change to 1926 conditions in one leap it could be accomplished by stages, but that hours should be reduced and rates of pay advanced proportionately in each stage.

New Legislation Visioned

"If some such constructive policy should not be adopted by the National Recovery Administration on its own initiative, it will be necessary for organized labor to seek an extension of Section 7 through legislation by the Congress," Mr. Lewis concluded. "This would necessarily take the form of the extension of Section 7 into a more general enumeration of mandatory industrial principles, or, in other words, of a more comprehensive industrial Bill of Rights, to include the following:

Labor Representation

"1. Complete co-partnership between capital and labor, by providing that Code Authorities, or code administrative agencies, should be composed of an equal number of representatives of employers and employes, with an impartial chairman, with the right to a vote in event of a tie, appointed by the National Recovery Administration, or, in other words, by the Government.

"2. A maximum working day of six hours and a maximum 30-hour work-week for all codes.

"3. Minimum rates of pay for all codes sufficient to enable an unskilled worker to support his family in health and modest comfort, and to provide reasonable savings against the contingencies of life.

"4. Equal pay for women performing the same work as men.

"5. The levying of assessments upon industries under the codes sufficient to yield funds for unemployment insurance payments, and old-age and disability pensions.

Prompt NRA Action Necessary

"The Recovery Act itself, in its more general provisions, as I have stated, provides complete authority for economic planning, including price and production control, and the adoption of such a constructive procedure by the National Recovery Act as I have already suggested.

"I hope the National Recovery Administration, therefore, will act on its own initiative, in accordance with the general powers it possesses and thus render unnecessary recourse to more explicit legislation by labor or other interested parties. Organized labor hopes that it will act quickly."

Activities of Communists Pictured By American Federation of Labor

President Green's Demand for Soviet Pledge Against Moscow-Inspired Propaganda Here As Condition of Recognition Charges Communists With Causing Strikes, Preparing for Revolution, and Disrupting Bona Fide Trade Unions.

Washington.—The American Federation of Labor is giving serious attention to the possibility of the recognition of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, and the arrival of Alexander Troyanovsky as first Soviet Ambassador, being accompanied by the encouragement of Communist activities in the United States by the Moscow regime.

On November 16, while negotiations for recognition were under way, Maxim Litvinoff, representing the Soviet Union, made the pledge to our Government that no Moscow-sponsored propaganda would be carried on here. William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, in a document submitted to President Roosevelt, requested that these terms be included in the recognition pact, but until now the scope of the document and its convincing facts were not revealed.

The memorandum consisted of 180 pages and 80 exhibits of pamphlets attributed to the Communist party including a chart describing an alleged Communist network covering 20 districts and the major industries.

Communist Organizations

"The Workers party, the United States section of the Communist Third Internationale," the document said, "is the father of the Red movement in our midst, the active branch being the Trade Union Unity League with 28 subordinate divisions. Our government should warn American wage-earners from joining these camouflaged unions, by placing a catalogue of these revolutionary organizations in the home of every American worker."

"OGPU Moscow spies are in American factories and in the trade union movement," the document read. "A former member, Bessedowski, when giving an astounding account of the OGPU intrigue, stated that its expenses in the United States 'would not exceed $50,000,000 per year.'

"Cases of assassination in the United States under its auspices by name, date and place are recited. United States Government departments are penetrated by the OGPU subterranean oganization, obtaining and utilizing State confidential information for the benefit of the Soviet regime.

Training for Insurrection

"Communist rules for demonstrations, such as the hunger march, the bonus march, the Illinois coal march and a chain of others, are unquestionably designed for military training, gradually leading up to an armed insurrection.

"Evidence accumulated by the American Federation of Labor shows the existence of a criminal group under Communist control comprising a skeleton terrorist force, trained, instructed and ready for expansion at short notice. Mutiny is advocated in the United States army and navy."

Communist Work in Unions

The document recites instances of strikes in the Mahoning Valley and in the steel and coal industries in opposition to NRA codes.

"The United Textile Workers," it declared, "have been forced to expend much money and some lives have been sacrificed."

The International Ladies Garment Workers and many of the building trades were also described as struggling against Communist activities.

Roosevelt Orders 15 Per Cent Pay Cut For Federal Workers Continued to July

Washington. — President Roosevelt signed an executive order continuing the 15 per cent pay reduction in the compensation of Federal employes until June 30, 1934.

The White House stated that two sets of findings on comparative costs of living submitted by Frances Perkins, Secretary of Labor, did not justify any slash in the 15 per cent reduction imposed on over half a million Government workers by the economy law enacted by the last Congress.

The first set of findings, based on the cost of living for families of wage earners and lower salaried workers in 32 cities gathered throughout the United States, revealed that the average cost of living for these groups, during the last half of 1933 was 21.1 per cent below the average of the base period of December, 1927 to June, 1928.

In this set the decline in the cost of living in the District of Columbia for similar families was 17.9 per cent.

The second set of findings resulted from a special study of the cost of living of Government employes in the District and was made during the past three months by the Labor Department.

These findings showed a decline in the cost of living of 14.6 per cent.

"Because the law provides for index figures covering all parts of the country," the White House stated, "it is necessary to continue the present scale until June 30, 1934."

In stating the President's action, a White House official called attention to the fact that under the President's budgetary recommendation, the general pay cut will be reduced 5 per cent on July 1, so that for the next fiscal year unless other legislation by Congress intervenes the Government workers will endure a 10 per cent wage reduction compared with their renumeration before the Economy Act was passed.